

What is claimed is:

1. A workflow management system with continuous status management, comprising:
  - an apparatus adapted to detect fuzzy process definitions;
  - an apparatus adapted to control activity stages in a workflow for the purpose of processing the process definitions; and
  - means for evaluating the process definitions for each process instance.
2. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatuses includes an interference machine.
3. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatuses includes an interference mechanism, arranged in an interference machine and in contact with a process instance manager, adapted to forward a signal corresponding to the respective instruction for activities of the activity stages to the process instance manager.
4. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the activity stages include an associated control stage, supplied with an activity threshold by an evaluation stage for the process status and connected to a functional stage for carrying out the activities, and wherein the functional stage is adapted to forward a signal corresponding to the respective state of the activities of the activity stages to the process instance manager.
5. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatuses is adapted to deliver instructions to activities of the activity stages with an associated continuous variable, the instructions being compared with an activity threshold for the control stage and providing corresponding “fuzzy” worklists for each activity of the activity stages, which reports its state to the at least one apparatus in the form of continuous variables.

6. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatuses includes causal networks.
7. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatuses is adapted to operate on the basis of the laws of fuzzy logic.
8. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatuses is adapted to operate on the basis of the laws of probability-based modeling.
9. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatuses is adapted to operate on the basis of the laws of general weighting.
10. A method for implementing a workflow with continuous status management through fuzzy process definitions, comprising:  
    using continuous instructions and states and at least one of logic combinations and continuous mapping operations operating thereon.
11. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed using at least one of fuzzy rules and relations.
12. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of fuzzy logic.
13. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of probability-based modeling.
14. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of control systems with priority weighting.

15. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the apparatuses includes an interference mechanism, arranged in an interference machine and in contact with a process instance manager, adapted to forward a signal corresponding to the respective instruction for activities of the activity stages to the process instance manager.

16. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one of the apparatuses is adapted to deliver instructions to activities of the activity stages with an associated continuous variable, the instructions being compared with an activity threshold for the control stage and providing corresponding “fuzzy” worklists for each activity of the activity stages, which reports its state to the at least one apparatus in the form of continuous variables.

17. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one of the apparatuses is adapted to deliver instructions to activities of the activity stages with an associated continuous variable, the instructions being compared with an activity threshold for the control stage and providing corresponding “fuzzy” worklists for each activity of the activity stages, which reports its state to the at least one apparatus in the form of continuous variables.

18. The workflow management system as claimed in claim 4, wherein at least one of the apparatuses is adapted to deliver instructions to activities of the activity stages with an associated continuous variable, the instructions being compared with an activity threshold for the control stage and providing corresponding “fuzzy” worklists for each activity of the activity stages, which reports its state to the at least one apparatus in the form of continuous variables.

19. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of fuzzy logic.

20. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of probability-based modeling.

21. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of fuzzy logic.

22. The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of probability-based modeling.  
The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of fuzzy logic.

23. The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the continuous mapping operations are performed on the basis of the rules of probability-based modeling.

24. A workflow management system with continuous status management, comprising:

means for detecting fuzzy process definitions;

means for controlling activity stages in a workflow for the purpose of processing the process definitions; and

means for evaluating the process definitions for each process instance.